

4. Every male person being twenty-one years of age, and resident in any particular town in this commonwealth, for the space of one year next preceding having a freehold estate within the same town, of the annual income of three pounds, or any estate of the value of sixty pounds, shall have a right to vote in the choice of a representative, or representatives, for the said town.

5. The members of the house of representatives shall be chosen annually, in the month of May, ten days, at least, before the last Wednesday of that month.

6. The house of representatives shall be the grand inquest of this commonwealth; and all impeachments, made by them, shall be heard and tried by the senate.

7. All money bills shall originate in the house of representatives: but the senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

8. The house of representatives shall have power to adjourn themselves; provided such adjournment shall not exceed two days at a time.

9. Not less than sixty members of the house of representatives shall constitute a quorum for doing business.

10. The house of representatives shall be the judge of the returns, elections, and qualifications of its own members, as pointed out in the constitution; shall choose their own speaker; appoint their own officers, and settle their rules and orders of proceeding in their own house. They shall have authority to punish, by imprisonment, every person not a member who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house, by any disorderly or contemptuous behaviour in its presence; or who, in the town where the general court is sitting, and during the time of its sitting, shall threaten harm to the body or estate of any of its members, for any thing said or done in the house; or who shall assault any of them therefor; or who shall assault or arrest any witness or other person, ordered to attend the house in his way in going or returning; or who shall rescue any person arrested by the order of the house.

And no member of the house of representatives shall be arrested or held to bail on mesne process, during his going into, returning from, or his attending the general assembly.

11. The senate have the same powers in the like cases; and the governor and council shall have the same authority to punish in like cases: provided, that no imprisonment, on the warrant or order of the governor, council, senate, or house of representatives, for either of the above described offences, be for a term exceeding thirty days.

And the senate and house of representatives may try and determine all cases where their rights and privileges are concerned, and which, by the constitution, they have authority to try and determine, by committees of their own members, or in such other way as they may respectively think best.

CHAPTER II.—SECTION 1.

EXECUTIVE POWER.

Governor.

Article 1. There shall be a supreme executive magistrate, who shall be styled the *Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts*; and whose title shall be, *His Excellency*.